



## Activities and Opportunities

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### December 1, 2024

**Welcome to worship at Trinity**, a place of love, grace, and belonging where all, without exception, are loved, honored, valued, affirmed, welcomed, and celebrated. If you are new to Trinity, we are thrilled to have you here. If you would like to know more about this congregation and our ministry please share your contact information with us by filling out a Connection Card which can be obtained from the pew racks or baskets. Thank you for your presence among us.

**Contributions.** Trinity is grateful for all the prayers, contributions, and displays of support from members, friends, and guests. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to our website [trinitylutheran.ws](http://trinitylutheran.ws), by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



**Children's Worship Opportunity.** Accompanied by Child Protection trained adults, all children are invited to leave the worship space after the children's sermon to go to either the Assembly Room (located underneath the Sanctuary) or to the Multipurpose Room (located in the Activities Building close to the Gym) depending on the location of worship to enjoy a story related to the scripture texts, games, interactive activities, and a craft before returning to the worship space during the Sharing of the Peace and in time to participate in the congregation's celebration of Holy Communion.

**Worship Bags** are available in the Narthex or Gym for children. Bags for preschoolers are tied with a white ribbon. Bags for elementary age children have no ribbon. After worship, used bags may be placed in the baskets next to the stands.

**Queer-led Worship.** On Thursday, December 5 worship will begin at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary so worshipers can enjoy the Chrismon Tree. New queer leaders are always welcome. Please email Patrick Preacher at [pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws) if interested. This service will be live-streamed. Refreshments and fellowship to follow.

**Advent Devotionals.** A new church year begins today with the start of the Advent season, a season of watching, waiting, giving, serving, and preparing to celebrate the birth of the Christ child. Advent devotional materials are available in the Narthex and near the door by the Sacristy.

**Trinity Children and youth** will join together for lunch today, December 1. Following lunch, the groups will divide for "Exploring the Faith: Miracles of Jesus." Pastor Parham will lead the youth and Angie McCormack will be with the children. The group will close with an ornament exchange for everyone. All children/youth are asked to bring an unwrapped ornament (\$5 limit). For more information or questions, contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4026.

**Nursery for infants and toddlers.** A nursery hosted by a member of the Trinity staff, Beth Oswald, as well as a small group of rotating volunteers who have been trained in Trinity's Child Protection Policy is available each Sunday morning beginning at 9:45 am to care for infants and toddlers who would prefer enjoying play time instead of attending 10:00 worship. The nursery is located on the first floor of the Pence Building. Please reach out to a greeter or usher if you need assistance.

**Faith Formation for Adults.** Today, December 1 in Rooms 12 and 13 at 9:00 am in the Activities Building an Advent series entitled *The Advent of Christ Within*, led by Josh Warner, former Trappist Monk and friend of Trinity, begins. The series explores themes of ego and self within the gospels. The class ends in time for worship each Sunday.

**Christmas Party and Ornament Exchange.** All Trinity adults are invited to attend a Christmas Party and Ornament Exchange on Friday, December 6 at 6:30 pm at the home of Chris and Karine Lawrence, 306 Henderson Road, Greenville. All participants are encouraged to bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for the exchange as well as an appetizer or dessert to share with the group. Soft drinks will be provided. Please register for this event through the Church Office.

**Annual Meeting.** Today the first session of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held immediately after worship in the Sanctuary. At this time the proposed budget for 2025 will be introduced and nominations for Congregation Council will be finalized.

The meeting will then stand in recess until 11:30 am next Sunday, December 8. On that day the congregation will meet in the Gym following worship to adopt a budget for 2025 and to elect members of Congregation Council. The ten nominees for the five three-year terms are Carl Brune, Jaime Fivecoat, Kellie Fontecchio, Angie Hager, Richard Moose, Patrick Morgan, Maria Roberts, Margaret Roth, McKinsey Threlkeld, and Brad Waters.

The nominee for the one one-year youth term is Lexi Thomas-Harewood.

While the ballots are being counted, participants will enjoy fellowship and refreshments. Everyone is invited to bring a brunch finger food to share. Beverages will be provided.

## **Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule**

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary  
Opening Session of Annual Congregation Meeting  
Refreshments and Fellowship on the front lawn

Thursday, December 5

Queer-Led Worship

Worship at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary with refreshments to follow

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym  
Followed by Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
Refreshments served when meeting is in recess

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Intergenerational Christmas Pageant with Holy Communion  
at 10:00 am in the Gym  
followed by a festive, catered Christmas Brunch

Thursday, December 19

A Blue Christmas service will be held in the Sanctuary at 6:30 pm for all who are  
grieving the death of loved ones or who are experiencing illness, struggles,  
or other losses during the holiday season

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary  
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

Tuesday, December 24

The Nativity of Our Lord/Christmas Eve

3:00 pm - Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion in the Gym (Nursery provided)  
followed by cookies and hot cocoa

5:30 pm - Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 29

First Sunday of Christmas

A Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary  
Refreshments and Fellowship on the front lawn

**Love Wins** is a group that meets monthly to discuss a book/podcast and to enjoy some social time together. All are welcome to celebrate the holidays together on Thursday, December 12 at 6:30 pm at the home of Jaime and Karen Fivecoat, 11 Andy Court, Taylors. Those attending are asked to bring an unwrapped ornament and an appetizer or dessert to share with the group. Contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4026 or [ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws) for more information or to sign up for this event.

**A Midweek Advent Worship Series** called *Pause, Prepare, Ponder* will take place on Wednesdays December 4, 11, and 18 at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary. These Advent services will include prayer, word, and song while incorporating poetry and silent reflection. This year's services will feature the poetry of Mary Oliver and include a simple devotional to take home each week. On December 18, worshippers will be invited to join The Welcome Table for lunch immediately following worship. On December 4 and December 11 a time of fellowship over a warm beverage and cookies will follow worship. Please mark your calendars to join your Trinity family as we watch and prepare for the arrival of the Christ child.

**Mental Health America of Greenville County's Operation Santa** has provided gift bag donations to mental health centers, supported housing and other organizations serving individuals with a chronic mental illness for over 60 years.

As we approach the holiday season, Trinity will participate in collecting new/unused items toward these gift bags filled with essential health & hygiene products.

Unwrapped items may be dropped in the designated bin in the breezeway, or brought to worship. Deadline for collection is December 2.

Requested items: hand sanitizer, deodorant, gloves/hats, socks, Kleenex, bar soap, body wash, shampoo, Chapstick, throw blankets, socks, size L or XL sweatshirts, adult coloring books, journals, body lotion and hand lotion/Vaseline. Contact Caroline Otten at [caroline29712@gmail.com](mailto:caroline29712@gmail.com) or 864 354-4457 with questions.